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DATE: February 4, 2005
FILE NO: ROC920010079US1
TO: Examiner Ronald Laneau
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FROM: Gero G. McClellan
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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JANUARY 12, 2005

U.S. SERIAL NO.: 09/848,572
FILING DATE: May 3, 2001
INVENTOR: Bates et al.
EXAMINER: Ronald Laneau
GROUP ART UNIT: 3627
CONFIRMATION NO.: 6826

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTE

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Bates et al.

Serial No.: 09/848,572

Confirmation No.: 6826

Filed: May 3, 2001

For: Systems and Methods for
Operating Vending MachinesMAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

§§§§§ Group Art Unit: 3627

§§§§§ Examiner: Laneau, Ronald

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37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office to fax number 703/872-9306 to the attention of Examiner Laneau on the date below:

February 4, 2005
Date Gero G. McClellan

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JANUARY 12, 2005

In response to the Office Action dated January 12, 2005, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on April 12, 2005, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 09-0465, the fee of \$200 for the addition of one (1) independent claim and for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

The Claims are listed beginning on page 2 of this paper. Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.